

Performance of "Anthracite Fields" will Mark the Anthracite 250th Anniversary

To celebrate the 250th anniversary of anthracite, the Lackawanna Historical Society is planning to present, for the first time in Lackawanna County, a full performance of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize-winning oratorio "Anthracite Fields" at Peoples Security Bank Theater at Lackawanna College on **Saturday, November 10 at 7:30 pm**. The oratorio, composed by Julia Wolfe, draws on oral histories, speeches, geographic descriptions, local rhymes, and a coal advertisement as well as personal interviews Wolfe conducted with former miners and their descendants. Wolfe will also act as the guest speaker at the Society's **Annual Dinner on November 8**. We're excited to offer both as a way to celebrate anthracite heritage.



The performance will be presented by the Bang on a Can All-Stars and choir of Trinity Wall Street, both from the original ensemble who toured with Wolfe when she released the piece. The hour-long concert combines elements of classical and folk music and consists of five movements:

- *Foundation*, honoring those who have died in mining accidents in Pennsylvania from 1869 to 1916
- *Breaker Boys*, a tribute to young boys working in coal breakers, using a cowbell and bicycle pedals to portray the sound of coal falling into the breakers to give the piece a 'rock feel'
- *Speech*, based on a speech by John L. Lewis, who fought for safe working conditions for the miners
- *Flowers*, created and inspired by an interview conducted with Barbara Powell who is the daughter and granddaughter of miners (In an interview, she stated, "We all had gardens" and began listing flower names.)
- *Appliances*, the last movement, using words from a coal-powered railroad ad and focusing on coal as a source to fuel the nation

The program will present Scranton audiences with an opportunity to experience a nationally recognized and awarded oratorio that deals with a local and much discussed topic: the Anthracite Industry. Too often in NEPA, people look back on this history with a negative feeling but by presenting a musical piece that was created out of that same story, local residents can be encouraged to take pride in their past and celebrate our Anthracite legacy.

For Ticket Information and Sponsorship Opportunities please see next page.

LHS Annual Dinner Welcomes Julia Wolfe

Join us for our Annual Dinner
on **Thursday, November 8 at 6 pm**
at the Anthracite Center in Carbondale.

We will be celebrating the Anthracite 250th Anniversary and the November 10th Lackawanna County premiere of "Anthracite Fields" with guest speaker Julia Wolfe, the composer. Wolfe will discuss her inspiration for the piece and discuss the reaction of audiences across the country. As always, we will also announce our Volunteer of the Year at the dinner.

Invitations will be mailed soon.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Anthracite Fields Sponsorship Levels:

Graphite \$500:

Patron Listing in program

Lignite \$1500:

*Business Logo on all printed marketing materials;
Half page (5"x 3.75") advertisement in program*;
Two tickets to dinner & performance*

Bituminous \$2500:

*Business Logo on all printed marketing materials;
Name & Logo on Program Cover;
Full page (5" X 8") advertisement in program*;
Four tickets to dinner & performance*

Anthracite \$5000:

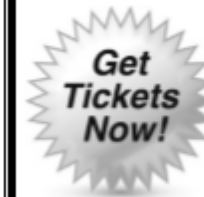
*Business Logo on all printed marketing materials;
Name & Logo on Program Cover;
Full page (5" X 8") advertisement in program*;
Eight tickets to dinner & performance;
Special recognition & display at both events*

Anthracite Fields Reservations:

Don't want to wait for the invitation?

LHS is accepting reservations now. Send your payment to the Catlin House, using the address below and include your meal choice:

- ☐ Chicken Francaise
- ☐ Braised Beef Short Ribs
- ☐ Dijon Encrusted Salmon
- ☐ Eggplant Parmesan



Dinner & Oratorio: \$75

Dinner-Only: \$50

Oratorio-Only: \$30

Oratorio (Student Discount) : \$20



Please make payment to:
Lackawanna Historical Society
232 Monroe Avenue
Scranton, PA 18510

*Please email a .jpeg or PDF version of your company logo and ad artwork to lackawannahistory@gmail.org



**Margaret Briggs
Foundation**